

**10/577745**  
**IAP17 Rec'd PCT/PTO 27 APR 2006**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Walter HERDING, Urs HERDING,      Attorney Docket No. : 187743/US  
                 Kurt PALZ, Rainer THÜRAUF,  
                 Stephan PRECHTL, Rainer  
                 SCHOLZ, Ralf SCHNEIDER,  
                 Johann WINTER, Rolf JUNG,  
Filed : Concurrently herewith      Customer No. : 27,076  
Title : REACTOR AND METHOD FOR ANAEROBIC WASTEWATER TREATMENT

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application filed under 35 U.S.C. 371 as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please cancel claims 1-23, and add new claims 24-48 as follows: